



HA‘ILONO KINA

TO BRING THE NEWS OF PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

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Disability and Communication Access Board (DCAB)

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DCAB End of Year Assessment

The end of a fiscal year (June 30) is a time to reflect on the accomplishments of an agency and to plan for the following year. Although we don't have enough space to fully describe our accomplishments over last year, the following are some highlights:

- Implemented H.R.S. §103-50 by conducting 1,280 document reviews of state and county buildings, facilities, and sites to ensure access for persons with disabilities and rendered 10 interpretive opinions on design specifications for ADAAG.
- Administered the Hawaii Quality Assurance System (HQAS) Sign Language Interpreter credentialing test to 11 applicants.
- Administered the person with a disability parking program, including making revisions to the application form and all the informational brochures.
- Amended state law and administrative rules for the person with a disability parking program to add vascular conditions to the list of eligible qualifying conditions, establish new penalties, and permit naturopaths to certify applicants.
- Managed the SPIN project, fielding 2,424 requests on the "SPIN warm line" and conducting 7 parent-related workshops as well as the Annual SPIN Conference.
- Provided information, referral, and technical guidance through 4,630 general calls, 1,750 design calls or faxes, in addition to the 2,424 calls on the SPIN warm-line previously mentioned.
- Conducted or coordinated 13 workshops on accessible design, 19 workshops on communication access, 22 workshops on the ADA Titles II and III, 6 workshops on employment, and 2 workshops on emergency evacuation.
- Coordinated the state effort for ADA compliance by working with Departments to implement their Transition Plans for program access.
- Successfully supported changes in the State's quarantine law to benefit persons with disabilities.
- Provided DCAB review, analysis, and comment on the following state laws and policies: State Olmstead Plan, the DOH Administrative Rules for Adult Residential Care Homes, State Medicaid Waiver renewal and various other Medicaid policies.
- Provided DCAB review, analysis, and comment on the following federal issues: ADA Notification Act, Help American Vote Act, Our Lady of Peace Act, Lifespan Respite Care Act, Orphan Drug Legislation, Community-Based Attendant Services and Supports Act (MiCASSA), and federal genetics nondiscrimination legislation.

For more information, contact Francine Wai at 586-8121 v/tty or accesshi@aloha.net.

DCAB Partners with Office of Elections on Access to Voting

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has awarded a \$100,000 grant to the Hawaii State Office of Elections, in partnership with DCAB, to establish, expand, and improve access to and



participation by individuals with a full range of disabilities in the election process. These funds are available for the current fiscal year under the Help America Vote Act (HAVA). The grant will be used to purchase equipment, including accessibility signage and portable ramps in order to augment accessibility to the voting site. In addition, training curricula and educational materials will be developed and statewide training will be conducted for persons with disabilities and precinct officials on how to ensure privacy and independence throughout the voting process.

For more information, contact Charlotte Townsend at 586-8121 v/tty or accesshi@aloha.net

DCAB Parking Symposiums Held

In the latter part of summer, DCAB held parking symposiums on each island to brainstorm ways in which the disabled person's parking program could be improved. The participants invited represented the county issuing agencies, police, volunteer enforcement programs, the Judiciary, the medical community, disability organizations, and individual users. Approximately 75 people statewide participated in providing input to DCAB.

Some of the topics discussed were: (1) The use and abuse of accessible parking stalls, including the effectiveness and viability of the volunteer enforcement programs; (2) Medical verification of disability, including pursuit of fraudulent verification of disability; (3) Public education and outreach to the general public; (4) Proper numbers and design of accessible parking stalls, including outreach to businesses; (5) Improving the issuance of the placard process by the counties and the central database operated by DCAB; and (6) Judicial enforcement, including developing a lenient policy of forgiveness by judges.

For more information, contact Kirby Shaw at 586-8121 v/tty or email accesshi@aloha.net.

Brochure on Designing an Accessible Parking Stall Available



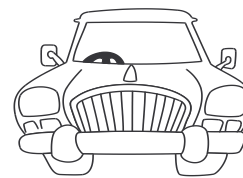
DCAB has developed a brochure for businesses and government entities with parking lots requiring accessible parking stalls. The brochure describes the required number of stalls as well as the appropriate dimensions per federal and state law and administrative rules. Businesses and government entities are

reminded that state law exceeds ADAAG in terms of signage on the accessible parking stall and the van accessible access aisle. There is also a monetary penalty for failure to have appropriate signage.

For a free copy of the brochure, contact Kirby Shaw or Lorraine Young at 586-8121 v/tty or email accesshi@aloha.net, or go to the DCAB website at www.hawaii.gov/health/dcab.

DCAB Conducts Study on Driver's Licensing Procedures

DCAB recently completed a research effort to examine the problems relating to the issuance of driver's license to individuals with disabilities. The study arose,



in part, because of the many calls to the office recounting arbitrary and capricious procedures in singling out individuals believed to be a safety risk based solely on disability status. This process resulted in additional delay and cost for those who were subjected to the long process.

The report recommends changes to the Hawaii Administrative Rules to clarify medical conditions for determining if an applicant poses a safety risk. The report also recommends "equalizing" the process for out-of-state drivers seeking a Hawaii license and "equalizing" the cost for neighbor island applicants. Additional recommendations for standardized and detailed application forms, and coordination with the counties were made.

For more information, contact Debbie Jackson at 586-8121 v/tty or accesshi@aloha.net.

Fair Housing Design Now a Part of DCAB Plan Review Process

On September 20, 2003, Governor Lingle signed into effect changes to the Hawaii Administrative Rules, Chapters 11-216 and 11-217 relating to facility access. The changes add the Fair Housing Design Guidelines to the Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines as the design standards for review by DCAB. These changes will only affect the review of state and county housing projects under Hawaii Revised Statutes 103-50.



For more information, contact Curtis Motoyama at 586-8121 v/tty or accesshi@aloha.net.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Tools For Life:

A 21st Century Look at Assistive Technology

will be held on July 9 - 10, 2004, at the Neal Blaisdell Center. More details will follow in our next issue. **For more information, contact Francine Wai at 586-8121 v/tty or accesshi@aloha.net.**

DCAB Works With New TRS Provider

If you are a regular user of Telecommunication Relay Services (TRS) in Hawaii, you may have noticed some recent changes. That is because Sprint Relay Hawaii began providing services statewide on July 1, 2003.

Sprint's new Account Manager is Jane Knox, former DCAB Communication Access Specialist. Her primary responsibility is to work with the community to ensure that relay services meet the users' needs and expectations. In addition, Sprint plans to establish a new Relay Advisory Board. If you have comments about the structure or membership of that board or any concerns or suggestions regarding relay services, please contact Jane Knox.

Sprint has been responsive to the concerns expressed by DCAB and other community groups (such as the Assistive Technology Resource Centers of Hawaii) to provide greater and expanded new technology to consumers. One of these new technologies is the CapTel™ phone and service provided in partnership with Ultratec of Wisconsin. Ideal for people with some degree of hearing loss, the CapTel™ phone displays every word the caller says. Users can both listen to the caller as well as read the written captions in the phone's bright display window. Sprint Relay Hawaii plans to distribute 25 CapTel™ phones each month to qualified users at no charge and on a "first-come, first-served" basis. A complete description of CapTel™ is available at: <http://www.ultratec.com/info/captel.html>

Sprint Relay Hawaii also offers an improved Equipment Distribution Program (EDP) for individuals with hearing loss, speech impairments or other communication challenges. Although Hawaii's Public Utilities Commission approved a \$6.00 per month rental charge, Sprint will provide equipment to qualified individuals at no charge. There is no income requirement for applicants. Details and application forms may be found at: www.relayhawaii.tty.com.

Sprint's Honolulu Call Center, operated by Communication Services for the Deaf, began handling local calls on October 1, 2003. The public is invited to see Sprint's broad array of relay service products at the 'Communication Is Key' Conference on November 18 (see announcement on this page).

For more information, contact Kristine Pagano, DCAB Communication Access Specialist, at 586-8130 v/tty or accesshi@aloha.net or Jane Knox, Sprint Relay Hawaii Account Manager, at 847-9012 tty or jane.p.knox@mail.sprint.com.

COMMUNICATION IS KEY

**A conference showcasing
the latest in communication tools
for people with speech,
hearing, or visual disabilities.**

**Hilton Hawaiian Village
Kalia Executive Conference Center**

November 18, 2003

12:30 - 4:30pm Workshops

12:30 - 7:00pm Exhibits

4:30 - 7:00pm Reception

Sponsored by:



**Disability and
Communication
Access Board**



**Pacific Disability and
Business Technical
Assistance Center**



Sprint Relay Hawaii

WORKSHOPS AND EXHIBITS

Both mainland and local speakers will present 12 workshops on a variety of topics. Vendors will exhibit their communication access and information technology products and services.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

There is no fee to attend either the workshops or exhibits. However, advanced registration is required to attend a workshop. Contact DCAB for a registration form or for more information.

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NEW COMMUNICATION ACCESS SPECIALIST AT DCAB
Aloha jane knox, Welcome Kristine Pagano

jane knox has left DCAB and is now the one-and-only, and therefore very busy, Account Manager for Sprint Relay Hawaii, the new Telecommunications Relay Service (TRS) provider in Hawaii (see related article on the previous page). We thank jane for her all her hard work here at DCAB, her relentless dedication to the pursuit of equal access, and her wicked sense of humor. We wish her luck in her new position – we know she will do well and are happy she is still in Hawaii utilizing her skills and talents to benefit the community.

DCAB is very happy to welcome **Kristine Pagano** as the new Communication Access Specialist. Kristine graduated from the University of Hawaii at Manoa with a Bachelor's Degree in Speech and is currently pursuing a Master's in Public Administration. Before starting at DCAB in September, Kristine taught American Sign Language at St. Francis School. She is a former member of our Board as well as a former Miss Deaf Hawaii and has been a strong advocate for the deaf and hard-of-hearing community for many years. At DCAB, Kristine will focus on the interpreter credentialing program, the administrative rules relating to the utilization of communication access services, providing staff support for committee meetings, conducting workshops on laws that impact persons with communication access needs, and maintaining effective working relationships in the community. This long list should keep her very busy! Kristine is married to Dr. Ian Pagano and enjoys hiking, swimming and traveling.



PHONE

Oahu 586-8121 v/tty
Neighbor islands dial the
number below, then the
DCAB exchange 6-8121.
Kauai: 274-3141 V
Hawaii: 974-4000 V
Maui: 984-2400 V
Molokai & Lanai:
1-800-468-4644 V



FAX
(808) 586-8129



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